In response to the election of species requirement, Applicants hereby elect the species of the formula:

Cb-$(CH)_2$-C(O)-Ala-Phe-Gly-Leu-NH_2

wherein **Cb** = a carborane (disclosed in the specification on page 5, line 24, to page 6, line 13, note page 6, lines 12-13). This elected species corresponds to the formula recited in claim 1 (*i.e.*, R-X_1-Phe-Gly-X_2-NH_2) wherein R = **Cb**-$(CH)_2$-C(O)- (*i.e.*, n=2 and X_3'=a bond), X_1=Ala, and X_2=Leu.

Furthermore, Applicants note that although this elected species is not specifically recited in any one claim, it is encompassed by claims 1-3, 14, and 15. However, the elected species does not fall within the scope of claims 4-13 within claim group 1.

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 remain of record in this application. Claims 20-30 were canceled in the original "Request For Filing A Patent Application Under 37 CFR 1.53(b)" filed September 10, 2003.

Traversal of Restriction

In requiring a restriction between group I, drawn to allatostatin analogs which may be topically applied, and group

IV, drawn to a method of using the compounds for insect control, the Examiner has taken the position that the product as claimed can be used in peptide synthesis, and that the process can be used with a variety of insecticides. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Looking first at compound claims 1-15, these claims are limited to analogs of the insect neuropeptide, allatostatin, which incorporate distinct modifications to the N terminus of allatostatins which allow the compounds to be topically applied to the target insects (*i.e.*, they penetrate the insect's cuticle and therefore do not need to be ingested for efficacy). As described in the specification at page 5, line 13 to page 9, line 11, these analogs may be prepared by conjugating selected hydrophobic R moieties to an allatostatin neuropeptide or a bioactive portion thereof. The resultant analogs are of the general formula:

$$R\text{-}X_1\text{-Phe-Gly-}X_2\text{-}NH_2 \qquad (I)$$

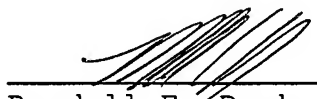
wherein X_1 is Asn, Asp, Gly, Ser, or Ala, and X_2 is either Leu or Ile. The R moiety incorporates the hydrophobic functionality which is effective to impart the amphiphilic nature to the molecule.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's suggestion that the claimed compounds could be used in a different process such as peptide synthesis. Because the compounds incorporate non-naturally occurring, modified moieties therein, they would not be suitable for use in the preparation of any known peptides.

Reconsideration of the restriction requirement between groups I and IV is therefore requested.

In view of the foregoing, applicants respectfully request that the requirement for restriction be reconsidered and withdrawn with respect to groups I and IV, and that all of claims 1-19 receive action on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,



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